

Apparatus at a draw frame having a drawing mechanism for  
the doubling and drafting of fibre slivers, having an  
adjusting device

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority from German Patent Application Nos. 102 42 390.3 and 103 29 835.5, which are incorporated herein by reference.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to an apparatus at a draw frame or other textile machine having a drawing mechanism for the doubling and drafting of fibre slivers.

10 Certain forms of draw frame have a drawing mechanism frame for accommodating the drawing mechanism, which has at least two pairs of rollers each comprising an upper roller and a lower roller, and means for adjusting the spacing of at least one of the lower rollers in relation to another  
15 lower roller, in each case having a mounting device for accommodating the lower roller, and lower rollers are arranged to be driven by at least one drive element endlessly revolving around pulley wheels and wherein each lower roller has a roller-driving pulley wheel.

20 In a known apparatus (DE-OS 20 44 996), the mountings of the intake and middle lower rollers are displaceable on the frame of the machine so that the extent of the drawing zone

can be matched to the particular fibre staple. A tensioning pulley wheel, which is displaceable in a guideway in the frame of the machine, allows the length of the toothed belt to be modified in accordance with the changed spacing

5 between the axes of the middle roller and a guide pulley wheel, brought about by displacement of the intake roller. The middle roller is driven by a further toothed belt. The latter toothed belt is tensioned by a tensioning pulley wheel which is fastened to the machine frame and which can

10 pivot about one axis; as a result, it can also be matched to changed spacings between the axes of the intake roller and middle roller. It is disadvantageous that displacing devices for displacement of the intake roller and the middle roller and additional tensioning devices for re-

15 tensioning of the toothed belts after the displacement operations are necessary, requiring a considerable outlay in terms of construction. In addition, it is disadvantageous that a number of work steps are required for the displacement operations and the subsequent re-tensioning

20 operations. The belt tension is destroyed by the displacement process. Where the displacement is carried out manually, spacers are inserted between the mountings, the mountings being pushed against the spacers so that, in this case too, the amount of set-up work is considerable.

25 Finally, the displacement and re-tensioning operations

result in a doubling of potential error sources when setting the spacings and belt tensions.

It is an aim of the invention accordingly to provide an apparatus of the kind described at the beginning that  
5 avoids or mitigates the disadvantages mentioned and that especially is of simple construction and allows a considerable reduction in the work and time required for adjustment of the slider(s) and, accordingly, of the extent(s) of the drawing zone(s), without re-tensioning the  
10 drive belt after the adjustment.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides a drawing mechanism having a drawing mechanism frame, at least two pairs of rollers each  
15 comprising an upper roller and a lower roller and having a mounting device for accommodating the lower roller, means for adjusting the spacing of at least one of the lower rollers in relation to another lower roller, and at least one drive device comprising a drive element endlessly  
20 revolving around pulley wheels, wherein said pulley wheels comprise a guide pulley wheel provided on a said mounting device and a roller-driving pulley wheel for driving the lower roller accommodated by that mounting device, said roller-driving pulley wheel and said guide pulley wheel  
25 acting one after another on opposed sides of the drive element.

The measures according to the invention make it possible, by simple means, for the mountings and, as a result, the extents of the drawing zones (nip line spacings) to be adjusted in a short time. For the purpose  
5 of adjusting the extents of the drawing zones, elegant use is made of existing structural elements necessarily present in the drawing mechanism, namely a roller-driving pulley wheel and the drive belt. Separate apparatuses for adjustment are not required. As a result of the fact that  
10 the drive belt is in tension before, during and after adjustment, further apparatuses for re-tensioning the drive belt after the adjustment are not required, which allows the extents of the drawing zones of the drawing mechanism to be changed in a short time by means that are especially  
15 simple in terms of construction.

Advantageously, the drive device can be used for adjusting the position of the mounting device of said lower roller, whereby said adjustment of said spacing is effected. Advantageously, at least one pulley wheel and  
20 the tensioned drive element are used for adjusting the mounting device. Advantageously, the drive element is stationary and the pulley wheel is rotated. Advantageously, the pulley wheel is stationary and the drive element is moved. Advantageously, the rotation of  
25 the pulley wheel or the movement of the drive element is converted into the adjusting movement of the slider.

Advantageously, at least one guide pulley wheel is attached to each slider (mounting); and the roller-driving pulley wheel or guide pulley wheel(s) act, in each case one after the other, on both sides of the tensioned drive element.

- 5 Advantageously, the rotation of the pulley wheel or the movement of the drive element is accomplished manually. Advantageously, the slider is linearly displaceable.

- Advantageously, the drive element is a toothed belt. Advantageously, an endless flexible toothed belt is
- 10 present. Advantageously, the pulley wheels comprise toothed belt wheels. Advantageously, the pulley wheels comprise guide pulley wheels. Advantageously, at least one driving pulley wheel is provided. Advantageously, driven pulley wheels are present. Advantageously, the drive
- 15 element loops around the pulley wheels. Advantageously, the drive element and the pulley wheel are in engagement with one another. Advantageously, the pulley wheel for adjustment of a slider is the drive pulley wheel of a lower roller (roller-driving pulley wheel). Advantageously, the
- 20 slider is displaceable during adjustment. Advantageously, the slider is arranged to be stopped. Advantageously, the stopping arrangement is releasable. Advantageously, a display device for the position of the slider is present.

- Advantageously, a drive motor is used for rotation of
- 25 the pulley wheel. Advantageously, a drive motor is used for movement of the drive element. Advantageously, the

drive motor is used for the lower rollers. Advantageously, a separate drive motor is used. Advantageously, belt shortening or belt lengthening is arranged to be automatically evened out during adjustment.

5 Advantageously, the evening-out of belt length is carried out at a slider by two guide pulley wheels.

Advantageously, the lower rollers are arranged to be adjusted singly and independently of one another.

Preferably, a roller-driving pulley wheel and a guide  
10 pulley wheel are attached to the slider of the intake roller and a roller-driving pulley wheel and a guide pulley wheel are attached to the slider of the middle roller.

Advantageously, the drive element runs around the pulley wheels at the slider of the intake roller and around the  
15 pulley wheels at the slider of the middle roller in a mirror-reflected arrangement. Advantageously, the drive element is in tension before, during and after the displacement. Advantageously, the drive motor is in communication with an electronic control and regulation  
20 device. Advantageously, a measuring element is connected to the control and regulation device. Advantageously, the measuring element is capable of registering fibre-related and/or machinery-related measurement variables.

Advantageously, adjustment of the slider is carried out  
25 when the drawing mechanism is in operation.

Advantageously, adjustment of the slider is carried out

when the drawing mechanism is not in operation.  
Advantageously, adjustment of the slider is carried out during can-changing. Advantageously, the draw frame is self-adjusting. Advantageously, adjustment of the slider  
5 is carried out by inputting adjustment variables.  
Advantageously, the adjustment variables can be input manually. Advantageously, a memory for adjustment variables is connected to the control and regulation device. Advantageously, the slider for the intake roller  
10 and the slider for the middle roller are arranged to be connected by a rigid connecting element. Advantageously, the connecting element is releasably connected. The spacing of the pairs of rollers in relation to one another may be adjustable without fibre material. The spacing of  
15 the pairs of rollers in relation to one another may be adjustable with fibre material. Advantageously, the extent of the preliminary draft zone can be adjusted.  
Advantageously, the extent of the main draft zone can be adjusted. Advantageously, the extent of the preliminary  
20 draft zone and the extent of the main draft zone can be adjusted. Advantageously, each lower roller has its own associated drive motor. Advantageously, the intake and middle lower rollers are arranged to be driven by one drive motor. Advantageously, a brake, stopping arrangement or  
25 the like is associated with the stationary pulley wheel.  
The brake, stopping arrangement or the like may be

mechanical, electrical or electromagnetic. Advantageously, the drive motor is a self-braking motor. Advantageously, the drive motor drives a further drive train, which has a free-wheel arrangement or the like.

5        Advantageously, the mounting device consists of the mounting and the slider. The mounting and the slider may be fastened to one another, for example by bolts. The mounting and the slider may be of integral construction.

          The invention also provides an apparatus at a draw frame  
10    having a drawing mechanism for the doubling and drafting of fibre slivers, having a drawing mechanism frame for accommodating the drawing mechanism, which has at least two pairs of rollers each comprising an upper roller and a lower roller, having means for adjusting the spacing of at  
15    least one of the lower rollers in relation to another lower roller, in each case having a mounting device for accommodating the lower roller, wherein lower rollers are arranged to be driven by at least one drive element endlessly revolving around pulley wheels, characterised in  
20    that at least one guide pulley wheel is attached to each mounting device; and the roller-driving pulley wheel or guide pulley wheel act, in each case one after the other, on both sides of the tensioned drive element.

          Moreover, the invention provides a draw frame comprising  
25    a drawing mechanism as defined above.



# BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a diagrammatic side view of an autoleveller draw frame for use with an apparatus according to the invention together with a general circuit diagram;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a side of the draw frame showing the displaceable mounting of the intake and middle lower rollers;

Figs. 3a and 3b show the drive for the intake and middle lower rollers for the draw frame according to Fig. 1, in a side view (Fig. 3a) and plan view (Fig. 3b);

Fig. 3c is a partial side view of a drive belt;

Figs. 4a to 4d show, in diagrammatic form, the sequential procedure for shortening of the preliminary and main draft zones;

Figs. 5a and 5b show the intake and middle lower rollers before displacement (Fig. 5a) and after displacement (Fig. 5b);

Figs. 6a and 6b show, in diagrammatic form, an electromagnetic braking apparatus for a toothed belt wheel;

Fig. 7 shows a locking device for a slider;

Fig. 8 shows a connection element (bridge) for connecting two sliders;

Fig. 9 is a partial side view of an embodiment comprising a drawing mechanism having three roller combinations, each having its own drive motor;

Fig. 10 is a side view of a drawing mechanism with input devices for manual and/or memory-assisted input of adjustment values for changing the nip line spacings in the drawing mechanism; and

Fig. 11 is a front view of a roller pair with an upper roller lifted off from a lower roller.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

In accordance with Figure 1, a draw frame 1, for example a draw frame known as an HSR draw frame (trade mark) made by Trützschler GmbH & Co. KG, has a drawing mechanism 2, upstream of which is an intake 3 of the drawing mechanism and downstream of which is an exit 4 from the drawing mechanism. The fibre slivers 5, coming from cans (not shown), enter the sliver guide 6 and, drawn by the draw-off rollers 7, 8, are transported past the measuring element 9. The drawing mechanism 2 is designed as a 4-over-3 drawing mechanism, that is to say it consists of

three lower rollers I, II, III (I delivery lower roller, II middle lower roller, III intake lower roller) and four upper rollers 11, 12, 13, 14. Drafting of the fibre sliver combination 5' from a plurality of fibre slivers 5 is carried out in the drawing mechanism 2. Drafting is composed of preliminary drafting and main drafting. The roller pairs 14/III and 13/II form the preliminary draft zone and the roller pairs 13/II and 11, 12/I form the main draft zone.

10       The attenuated fibre slivers 5 reach a web guide 10 in the exit 4 from the drawing mechanism and, by means of the draw-off rollers 15, 16, are drawn through a sliver funnel 17, in which they are combined to form one fibre sliver 18, which is then deposited in cans. Reference  
15       letter A denotes the work direction.

          The draw-off rollers 7, 8, the intake lower roller III and the middle lower roller II, which are connected to one another mechanically, for example by toothed belts, are driven by the control motor 19, it being possible, in the  
20       process, for a desired value to be specified. (The associated upper rollers 14 and 13, respectively, revolve by virtue of the motion of the lower rollers.) The delivery lower roller I and the draw-off rollers 15, 16 are driven by the main motor 20. The control motor 19 and the main  
25       motor 20 each have their own controller 21 and 22, respectively. Control (speed-of-rotation control) is

carried out in each case by means of a closed control loop,  
a tachogenerator 23 being associated with the control  
motor 19 and a tachogenerator 24 being associated with the  
main motor 20. At the intake 3 of the drawing mechanism, a  
5 variable proportional to the weight of the fibre slivers 5  
fed in, for example their cross-section, is measured by an  
intake measuring element 9 known, for example, from  
DE-A- 44 04 326. At the exit 4 from the drawing mechanism,  
the cross-section of the delivered fibre sliver 18 is  
10 ascertained by an exit measuring element 25 associated with  
the sliver funnel 17 and known, for example, from  
DE-A- 195 37 983. A central computer unit 26 (control and  
regulation device), for example a microcomputer with a  
microprocessor, sends a setting for the desired value for  
15 the control motor 19 to the controller 21. The measurement  
values of the two measuring elements 9 and 25 are sent to  
the central computer unit 26 during the drawing process.  
The desired value for the control motor 19 is determined in  
the central computer unit 26 from the measurement values of  
20 the intake measuring element 9 and from the desired value  
for the cross-section of the delivered fibre sliver 18. The  
measurement values of the exit measuring element 25 are  
used for monitoring of the delivered fibre sliver 18  
(delivered sliver monitoring). By means of this control  
25 system, it is possible for variations in the cross-section  
of the fibre slivers 5 fed in to be compensated, and for

the fibre sliver to be made more uniform, by appropriately regulating the drafting process. Reference numeral 27 denotes a display monitor, 28 an interface, 29 an input device, 30 a pressure rod and 31 a memory.

5       With reference to Fig. 2, each of lower rollers II, III has an associated mounting device comprising a respective mounting 33a, 34a. The trunnions Ia, IIa, IIIa (see Fig. 3b) of the lower rollers I, II and III are mounted so as to be capable of rotation in mountings 32a, 33a, 34a (32b,  
10   33b, 34b are located on the other side of the drawing mechanism and are not shown). The mountings 33a and 34a are bolted onto sliders 35a and 36a, respectively, which are displaceable in the direction of the arrows C, D and E, F, respectively, along a bar 37a. The two ends of the bar 37a  
15   are fixedly mounted in mounting blocks 38' (38'' not shown), which are attached to the frame 39 of the machine.

Displacement of the sliders 35a, 35b; 36a, 36b at the same time causes the mountings 33a, 33b; 34a, 34b and, as a result, the lower rollers II and III, respectively, to be  
20   displaced and moved in directions C, D and E, F, respectively. The associated upper rollers 13 and 14 are correspondingly moved (in a manner not shown) in directions C, D and E, F, respectively. By that means, the nip line spacings between the roller combinations are modified and  
25   set.

Locking of the sliders 35a, 35b; 36a, 36b is accomplished by means of a catch device, stopping device or the like, one suitable form of stopping device being shown in Fig. 7.

5 Referring to Fig. 3a, the lower rollers II and III are driven from the right-hand side of the draw frame, seen in the direction of material flow A, by means of a common loop mechanism in the form of toothed belt wheels 40, 41 and a  
10 toothed belt 47. The different speeds of rotation of the lower rollers II and III are achieved by means of change-gearwheels at the drive trunnions IIa, IIIa provided with different numbers of teeth. The toothed belt 47 runs in direction B (that is to say contrary to the work direction) onto the control drive, which is in the form of a servo  
15 motor 19. The lower roller I is driven from the left-hand side of the machine by means of a loop mechanism in the form of toothed belt wheels and a toothed belt 47'. For that purpose, the toothed belt 47' runs on the left-hand side from the toothed belt disc 40' at the lower roller I  
20 in direction G onto the servo motor 20.

In operation, that is to say when the fibre slivers are running in direction A, the toothed belt 47 moves in direction G. Starting from the toothed belt wheel 47 arranged on the drive motor 19, the toothed belt 47 runs  
25 successively over a toothed belt wheel 45, a smooth guide pulley wheel 46, the toothed belt wheel 40 (roller-driving

pulley wheel for the lower roller III), the toothed belt wheel 41 (roller-driving pulley wheel for the lower roller II), a smooth guide pulley wheel 42 and a toothed belt wheel 43. As shown in Fig. 3c, the belt 47 has a toothed side 47a and a smooth side 47b. By means of its teeth, the toothed belt 47 is in positive engagement with the toothed belt wheels 40, 41, 43, 44 and 45. The smooth side (reverse) of the toothed belt 47, opposite the toothed side, is in contact and in engagement with the smooth guide pulley wheels 46 and 42. The toothed belt 47 loops around all the pulley wheels 40 to 46. In operation (when the fibre slivers are running in direction A during drafting), the toothed belt wheels 40, 41, 43, 44 and 45 rotate clockwise and the guide pulley wheels 42 and 46 rotate anti-clockwise.

The toothed belt wheels 40, 41 are associated with the mountings 34a and 33a, respectively, whereas the guide pulley wheels 42, 46 are attached to the sliders 35a and 36a, respectively, in a manner allowing rotation. Because of the rigid attachment between the mounting 34a and the slider 36a and between the mounting 33a and the slider 35a (for example, by means of bolts), there are associated with the lower rollers II and III, in each case, one toothed belt wheel 40 and 41, respectively, and one guide pulley wheel 46 and 42, respectively. The toothed belt 47 runs around the pulley wheels 40, 46, on the one hand, and

around the pulley wheels 41, 42, on the other hand, in a mirror-reflection arrangement (see Fig. 3b).

The zone between the pairs of rollers 13/II and 14/III is designated VV (preliminary drafting) and the zone between the pairs of rollers 12/I and 13/II is designated HV (main drafting) (see Fig. 4a). When, in accordance with Fig. 3a, the nip line spacing between the roller pairs 14/III and 13/II is to be increased, at least one pair of rollers must be moved away from the respective other pair of rollers. For that purpose the slider 35a may be displaced towards the right, which may be accomplished in two ways:

- a) The slider 35a is unlocked. A pulley wheel, for example the toothed belt wheel 44, is stopped so that there is no possibility of rotation. Stopping may be accomplished, for example, by mechanical or electromagnetic means. As a result the toothed belt 47 is stationary and cannot be moved. The toothed belt wheel 41 is then rotated anti-clockwise, for example manually using a crank or the like, whereupon the guide pulley wheel 42 likewise rotates, clockwise, as a matter of necessity. In the process, the rotary movement of the toothed belt wheel 41 is converted into a longitudinal movement of the slider 35a in direction C, the toothed belt wheel 41 and the



guide pulley wheel 42 winding along opposite sides  
of the stationary toothed belt 47, thereby  
"shortening", as it were, the toothed belt 47 at  
one pulley wheel and "lengthening" it at the other  
pulley wheel. The length of belt required during  
that "winding along" at the toothed belt wheel 41  
is made available at the guide pulley wheel 42.  
The lower roller II is thereby displaced in  
direction C by means of the slider 35a and the  
mounting 33a.

b) The slider 35a is unlocked. The toothed belt  
wheel 41 is stopped so that there is no  
possibility of rotation. As a result the guide  
pulley wheel 42 is also stopped of necessity.  
Then, clockwise rotation is brought about by means  
of the drive motor 19. The toothed belt 47 moves  
in direction G, likewise "shortening" the belt 47  
at one pulley wheel and "lengthening" it at the  
other pulley wheel. The length of belt actually  
required between the toothed belt wheels 40 and 41  
is made available between the toothed belt  
wheels 43 and pulley wheel 42. The rotary movement  
of the toothed belt wheel 44 and the movement of  
the toothed belt 47 is thereby converted into a  
longitudinal movement of the slider 35a in  
direction C. The lower roller II, mounted in the

mounting 33a (which is rigidly connected to the slider 35a), is likewise moved in direction C as a result.

In practice, it is often the case that, in accordance with Figs. 4a to 4d, first the preliminary draft zone VV is modified and then the main draft zone HV. In the case of shortening of the draft zones VV and HV, the slider 36a is displaced in the direction of the arrow E from the position according to Fig. 4a into the position according to Fig. 4b. As a result, the nip line spacing in the preliminary draft zone VV is reduced from "a" to "a'". Then, in accordance with Fig. 4c, the sliders 36a and 35a are rigidly connected to one another by means of a bridge 50. Finally, the rigidly coupled sliders 36a and 35a are moved, in accordance with Fig. 4d, in the direction of the arrows E and C, from the position shown in Fig. 4c into the position shown in Fig. 4d. As a result, the nip line spacing in the main draft zone HV is shortened from "b" to "b'". - A corresponding procedure is used in the case of lengthening the preliminary and main draft zones, that is to say the coupled sliders 35a and 36a are displaced in the direction of the arrows F and D (see Fig. 2), as a result of which the main draft zone HV is lengthened. Then, the sliders 35a and 36a are uncoupled from the bridge 50. Finally, the slider 36a is moved in the direction of the

arrow F (see Fig. 2), as a result of which the preliminary draft zone VV is lengthened.

With regard to the fibre slivers 5 in the drawing mechanism 2, it should be noted that, in the case of shortening of the draft zones VV and HV, a small amount of stretching, in direction B, of the fibre slivers 5<sup>IV</sup> upstream of the pair of rollers 14/III can occur on displacement in accordance with Figs. 4a, 4b, but because of the length (about 1.5 m) of the spacing between the transport rollers 7, 8 and the pair of rollers 14/III this is without significance. In the case of shortening, a sagging loop does not form in the preliminary draft zone VV because in the case of displacement referring to the pairs of rollers 14/III and 13/II either one or both pairs of rollers are rotatable because the drives to both pairs of rollers are coupled by way of the toothed belt 47. In contrast, in the case of shortening of the main draft zone HV, a sagging loop is formed in fibre slivers 5'', which is drawn out or drawn straight by rotation of the pair of rollers 12/I in the work direction A by means of the main motor 20. - In the case of lengthening of the draft zones VV and HV, the pair of rollers 12/I is, in a first step, rotated backwards in direction B, whereupon a sagging loop is intentionally formed in the fibre slivers 5''. When the main draft zone HV is subsequently lengthened by displacement of the coupled sliders 35a and

36a in direction D and F, the artificially formed loop is, in the process, once again drawn out or drawn straight. Finally, after uncoupling of the bridge 50, the slider 36a is displaced in direction F. As a result of the above-  
5 mentioned coupling of the drives to the intake and middle lower roller pairs by means of the toothed belt 47, the length of the fibre slivers 5' in the preliminary draft zone VV remains unaffected. Possible slight longitudinal compression of the fibre slivers 5<sup>IV</sup> upstream of the pair  
10 of rollers 14/III is, in respect of the drafting and the constitution of the fibre slivers 5<sup>IV</sup>, without significance.

Figs. 5a, 5b show a suitable construction for bringing about the displacement of the sliders 36a and 35a. The nip  
15 line spacing in the preliminary draft zone VV is lengthened from "a" (Fig. 5a) to "a'" (Fig. 5b). The sliders 36a and 35a are displaced one after the other according to the arrows E and C, respectively. Displacement is accomplished by stopping the toothed belt wheel 40 or fixing it with a  
20 holding brake or the like and then actuating the drive motor 19, whereupon the toothed belt 47 moves. In continuation thereof, the sliders 36a and 35a are displaced in accordance with Figs. 4a, 4b and, subsequently, Figs. 4c, 4d.

25 In Fig. 6a there is shown an electromagnetic holding brake for braking the toothed belt wheel 44. The brake has

a rod-shaped iron core 53 surrounded by a plunger coil 54. Mounted on one end face of the iron core 53 is a brake shoe 55, for example made of plastics material or the like. The iron core 53 is displaceable in the direction of the  
5 arrows M, N. When current flows through the plunger coil 54, the iron core 53 is moved in direction M, in accordance with Fig. 6b, so that the brake shoe 55 is pressed against the smooth cylindrical surface of the shaft 44a of the toothed belt wheel 44. As a result, the  
10 toothed belt wheel 44 is fixed (stopped) so that it cannot rotate, for as long as voltage is applied to the plunger coil 54.

In Fig. 7 there is shown a stopping device for slider 36a and corresponding lower roller III. A pneumatic  
15 cylinder 60 having a piston rod 61 is attached to the slider 36a. When subjected to pressure from the pneumatic cylinder 60, the piston rod 61 is moved out in the direction of the arrow P and comes to rest, with a high degree of contact pressure, against the machine frame 61.  
20 The slider 36a is fixed (stopped) so that it cannot be displaced with respect to the bar 37a, for as long as compressed air is applied to the pneumatic cylinder 60. Lower roller II may be provided with an analogous arrangement.

25 In accordance with Fig. 8, there is provided, as the bridge 50 between the sliders 35a and 36a, a flat piece of

metal (plate), which is fastened in the region of one of its ends 50a to the slider 36a, for example using bolts. In its region 50b facing the slider 35a, the flat piece of metal has an elongate hole 50c, through which a bolt 62 can engage in a threaded hole (not shown) in the slider 35a. By means of this bridge 50, the sliders 35a and 36a can be rigidly connected to one another, releasably, at different spacings with respect to one another.

In accordance with Fig. 9, in contrast to Fig. 1, each lower roller I, II and III is driven by its own drive motor 20, 52 and 19, respectively, as shown, for example, in DE-OS 38 01 880. The motor 20 drives the toothed belt wheel 55 of the lower roller I by way of the toothed belt 56; the motor 52 drives the toothed belt wheel 41 of the lower roller II by way of the toothed belt 57; and the motor 19 drives the toothed belt 47. Attached to the roller III by way of the smooth guide pulley slider 36a, in addition to the smooth guide pulley wheel 46, is a further smooth guide pulley wheel 51. The endless toothed belt 47 loops around, in succession, the pulley wheels 44, 46, 40, 51 and 43. The toothed belt wheels 44, 40 and 43 are in engagement with the teeth of the toothed belt 47, whereas the smooth guide pulley wheels 46 and 51 are in engagement with the smooth reverse side of the toothed belt 47. The sliders 35a and 36a are rigidly connected to one another, releasably, by means of

the bridge 50. When they are not connected by the bridge 50, the sliders 35a and 36a are individually displaceable and when they are connected by the bridge 50 they are jointly displaceable.

5        In accordance with Fig. 10, the drive motor 19 for lower rollers II and III is in communication with the electronic control and regulation device 26. Adjustment values for modification of the draft zones VV and HV (that is to say the extents of the drawing zones) either can be  
10        entered manually by way of the input device 29 or can be called up from a memory 31 for particular categories of fibre material.

Adjustment of the nip line spacing in the preliminary draft zone VV and/or the main draft zone HV can be carried  
15        out with the fibre slivers 5 inserted.

Displacement can be carried out with the upper rollers 11 to 14 in the loaded state. Figs. 1 and 10 show inserted fibre slivers 5 and loaded upper rollers 11 to 14. With the fibre slivers inserted and the upper rollers 11 to 14  
20        loaded, the sliders 35a, 36a or mountings of at least one lower roller II, III are unlocked, the sliders or mountings are set to the desired nip line spacing a, a'; b, b' by means of a displacement device, for example in accordance with Figs. 3a, 3b; 5a, 5b and then the sliders 35a, 36a or  
25        mountings are locked again (for example in accordance with Fig. 7).

Displacement can also be carried out with the upper rollers 11 to 14 lifted off. The upper rollers 11 to 14 may be lifted off completely from the lower rollers I to III in the manner shown in DE-OS 197 04 815, the upper roller 14 being swung out on a portal 58 about a pivot mounting 59. However, it may also be sufficient for the upper rollers 11 to 14 to be unloaded and to be lifted off from the lower rollers I to III only to a slight degree such that the fibre slivers 5 are not caught by the pairs of rollers during displacement of the draft zones VV and HV but can slide through the roller nip without being adversely affected.

The invention has been illustrated using the example of the adjustment of the nip line spacings of a drawing mechanism of a draw frame. It likewise encompasses the adjustment of drawing mechanisms of other machines, for example carding machines, combing machines, fly frames and ring spinning frames.